

## THE LEGISLATURE

Favorable Action by the Council on the Bill Adopting the Australian System of Voting.

The Bill Providing for the Appointment of an Inspector of Steam Boilers Before the House.

Governor Leslie Signs a Number of Important Bills, Which Will Shortly Become Laws.

The council spent the better portion of yesterday's session discussing Kennedy's bill for the purification of the ballot box in committee of the whole and when the committee arose recommended it for passage. The house received a petition from Twin Bridges asking the legislature to appropriate \$5,000 for the purpose of assisting agricultural and mechanical fair associations at that place to carry on their annual fairs. The petition was referred to the committee on agriculture and stock raising. The bill providing for the creation of a steam boiler inspector was favorably considered and recommended for passage. Governor Leslie notified the legislature that he had signed the bill for the better protection of game and fish, to provide for compensation of justices of the peace, to regulate the practice of medicine and surgery, and the bill allowing cities and towns to incur indebtedness.

### THE COUNCIL

Council met at the usual hour, all present but Conrad. Kennedy, chairman of the joint committee on enrollment, reported that house bill No. 3, relating to minor visiting stations, had been handed to the governor for his consideration. Also that council bill No. 20, had been correctly enrolled.

Introduction of bills. By Collins (by leave) council bill No. 17, relating to chattel mortgages. Read and referred to the judiciary committee. By Rickford—Council bill No. 45, concerning the administration of public schools in incorporated cities. Read and ordered printed.

A message from the governor was read, notifying the council that he had signed council bill No. 7, to authorize counties to build free bridges.

The following house bills were read first and second times:

House bill No. 14, referred to the judiciary committee.

House bill No. 23, referred to the committee on grain and stock raising.

House bill No. 16, referred to the committee on mines and mining.

On motion of Thompson, of Deer Lodge, house amendments to council bill No. 25 were concurred in.

Middleton moved to take up council bill No. 17, relating to the time when indictments should take effect, and refer it to a joint committee of both houses. The president appointed on the part of the council Messrs. Middleton, Brown and Hoffman.

Council went into committee of the whole, Collins in the chair. Kennedy's election bill was considered. But very little discussion arose, and when the committee arose section 24 was under discussion.

Council resumed and Collins reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

On motion of Thompson, of Deer Lodge, council took a recess until 1:30 p. m.

When council resumed Thompson, of Deer Lodge, moved to suspend the regular order of business in the further consideration of council bill No. 8, Collins, chairman of the committee of the whole, being absent, the regular order was not suspended.

Brown, of the judiciary committee, reported back house bill No. 31, an act to repeal section 206, chapter 1 of the compiled statutes.

Middleton by leave, introduced council bill No. 50, providing for execution, levy and sale on certain animals. Read and ordered printed.

Brown, by leave, introduced council bill No. 51, an act to amend section 756, fifth division compiled statutes, relating to appeals from the decisions of county commissioners. Read and ordered printed.

Council went into committee of the whole for the consideration of Kennedy's electoral reform bill. The bill was read and the committee reported it for passage.

Kennedy offered to amend section 34 by striking out that portion which prevents people from gathering within twenty-five feet of the polling places.

Thompson of Deer Lodge opposed this, thinking the distance too great. The matter was referred to the committee on the whole. Middleton favored the amendment and then Brown arose. He was strenuously opposed to striking out the provision. He had his way would make the distance that people should be allowed to congregate from the polls 400 feet. The matter was referred to the committee on the whole. Middleton favored the amendment and then Brown arose. He was strenuously opposed to striking out the provision. He had his way would make the distance that people should be allowed to congregate from the polls 400 feet. The matter was referred to the committee on the whole.

Kennedy then withdrew his amendment and Rickford offered an amendment prohibiting persons from congregating within twenty-five feet of a polling place and making it incumbent upon all persons to arrest persons offending. Carried unanimously.

Rickford introduced a section providing for the printing and distribution of the bill, after it has passed, for the benefit of the whole. The section was adopted.

Section 36 was amended to repeal all acts in conflict with the proposed law.

The bill provided that it shall take effect June 1, 1890.

On motion it was recommended that when the committee arise it report on the bill and recommend that the bill do pass.

Council bill No. 40, entitled "An act to permit school districts No. 8, Missoula county, to issue bonds for the purpose of erecting a school house," was taken up.

Rickford said he feared the adoption of the bill, but it was not the universal sentiment of the people that it should pass. He wanted to know from the council if it came under the provisions of special legislation under the restrictive act passed by congress. He said he had the opinion of well-known attorneys that it did not. He then went on to speak in favorable terms for the measure and explained how the taxpayers would not be burdened by the issue of bonds, as money derived from the sale of school lands would in a measure pay the bonded indebtedness. He also read a remonstrance from Grandtetele.

Hoffman said the bill was undoubtedly special legislation, but he thought the council might pass a general law authorizing counties to erect school houses. Middleton concurred with Hoffman.

of game and fish; house bill No. 12, to enable cities and towns to incur indebtedness; house bill No. 10, to provide for the compensation of justices of the peace, and house bill No. 8, to regulate the practice of medicine and surgery in the territory of Montana.

The undersigned petitioners would beg leave to call the attention of your honorability to the general benefit to be derived through improvement in agriculture and stock raising by a system of premiums for worthy improvements. And whereas the incorporation known as the Southern Montana Agricultural, Mechanical and Mineral Association has successfully conducted a fair at Twin Bridges, Madison county, Mont., for the last two years at no small outlay of money in erecting suitable buildings, preparing grounds, etc., free to the public, and the field of useful industry may be broadened and extended we would pray that an appropriation of \$5,000 be distributed by your honorability to be paid annually out of the general fund of the territory," signed by Andrew Jackson and fifty others. Referred to stock raising and agriculture committee.

The address of Joseph A. Waters and Joseph Ingraham were read stating that they had not signed nor authorized their names to be affixed to a petition praying for the annexation of a part of Madison county to Gallatin county.

Comfort presented a petition from sixty residents of Madison county protesting against any part of that county being attached to Gallatin county.

The following reports were received and placed on general orders:

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The incorporation committee reported house bill No. 35, relative to printing and publishing city ordinances, recommending its passage.

The military affairs committee reported house bill No. 45, to regulate the practice of dentistry, with a recommendation that it be indefinitely postponed.

The elections and territorial affairs committee reported house bill No. 42, requiring county treasurers to advertise warrants, recommending its passage.

The ways and means committee reported house bill No. 36, concerning licenses, with a recommendation that it pass.

The joint enrollment committee reported council bill No. 29, relative to supreme court reporter, recommending its passage as amended; house bill No. 41, relative to limitations of actions, recommending its passage as amended; house bill No. 45, relative to railroads, recommending it for passage as amended; house bill No. 45, relative to a code commission, recommending its passage as amended; and house bill No. 45, relative to a code commission, recommending its passage as amended.

The report of the committee of the whole was received and adopted, recommending that house bill No. 1, concerning assessors, be referred to a select committee consisting of Rickford, Hunt, Willis, Blackley, No. 1.

The committee on house bill No. 26, relative to municipal corporations, reported recommending that the amendments be adopted and the bill be passed.

The towns, counties and highways committee reported house bill No. 39, to change the boundary lines between Madison and Gallatin counties, recommending the passage of the bill as amended.

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House bill No. 53, by Swiggett, providing for the filling of judicial vacancies in the office of county commissioner.

House bill No. 54, by Davis, to amend sections 229, 242, 261, 267, 268 and 269, fifth division of the compiled statutes. The house went into committee of the whole, with Collins in the chair. The committee decided to recommend the indefinite postponement of council bill No. 82, relating to the time when indictments should take effect.

Council bill No. 1, to establish the office of inspector of steam boilers, was read and the committee reported it for passage.

The house resumed and the speaker signed council bill No. 20, relating to formation of jury.

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